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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, July 10, 1995)

The Senate met at 9:15 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. Thurmond].

PRAYER.

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Lord God of history, today as the Korean War Veterans Memorial is officially dedicated, we remember with profound gratitude the over 54,000 Americans who died, the more than 8,000 still listed as missing, and the over 100,000 who were wounded in the Korean war. May this day also be an opportunity to honor all those who served our country and the cause of freedom in this war. Never again may they feel they fought in what some have called the "forgotten war."

Lord, sharpen our memories so that we can realize again how crucial this war was for the liberation of the South Korean people from communism. Help us to remember that through this war there was an establishment of democracy and a dynamic industrial society. When we reflect on what might have happened to the destiny of South Korea had this battle for democracy not been fought, we enter into this day of memorial with a great sense of debt to those who paid the high price for the freedom of a people who at that time, could not defend themselves. May this day overcome the world's neglect of what these Americans endured, and at last, affirm what they achieved. Inscribe on our hearts what is inscribed on the 8-ton granite slab of this memorial in the Washington Mall:

Our Nation honors her sons and daughters who answered the call to defend a country they never knew and a people they never met.

Lord God of hosts, be with us yet, lest we forget—lest we forget. Amen.

RYAN WHITE CARE REAUTHORIZATION ACT

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 641) to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act of 1990, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Helms amendment No. 1854, to prohibit the use of amounts made available under this act for the promotion or encouragement of homosexuality or intravenous drug use.

Helms amendment No. 1855, to limit amounts appropriated for each of fiscal years 1996 through 2000 under title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act to the level of such appropriations in fiscal year 1995.

Helms amendment No. 1856, to ensure that Federal employees will not be require to attend or participate in AIDS or HIV training programs.

Helms amendment No. 1857, to limit amounts appropriated for AIDS or HIV activities from exceeding amounts appropriated for cancer.

Kassebaum amendment No. 1858, to prohibit the use of funds to fund AIDS programs designed to promote or encourage intravenous drug use or sexual activity.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the able Senator from Nevada is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, under the order that has previously been entered, how much time does the Senator from Nevada have?

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Fifteen minutes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, my oldest child, my only daughter, married a young man from North Carolina, a fine young man, someone that our whole family has accepted. He has been great to my daughter and to the whole family. We are very proud of both of them.

We have learned that when your child marries, other people automatically come into the family. As a result of my son-in-law coming into our family, his parents came into our family as well, a wonderful couple, Melvin and Mattie.

Mr. President, we got to love and appreciate both of them, and all the time that we knew Mattie, my daughter's mother-in-law, she was very ill. She was dying of cancer, and had been suffering for a long period of time.

Finally, Mattie passed away. Melvin and Mattie had been married 40-plus years. Then, after a few years had passed, Melvin and a woman that he had known his entire life—she was a widow, he was a widower—married.

This relatively elderly couple on their honeymoon recognized that Beulah, the new wife, was ill. She did not know what was wrong, but she was very sick. And after having a significant number of medical tests, it was learned that his new wife had AIDS. It was determined she had contracted the disease from her former husband. He had had open-heart surgery and was given tainted blood. So this angelic man, Melvin, who had spent many, many years caring for his very sick wife dving of cancer, now faced another tragic situation—his new wife was dying of AIDS. You see, Mr. President, anyone that gets AIDS dies. It is a terminal disease. It is only a question of how long. Beulah suffered significantly, and recently passed away.

Mr. President, the reason I relate this story to my colleagues here in the Senate is that AIDS affects everyone. It does not affect a specific community. It does not affect a specific ethnic group. It does not affect just young men. It does not affect only young women. It has some effect on all of us. Really, Mr. President, that is what the Ryan White legislation is all about. It recognizes that AIDS is an epidemic that is sweeping the country. It recognizes that victims with AIDS need special help as a result of the disease.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

